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UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN KOREA
UNITED STATES ARMY MILITARY GOVERNMENT

SOUTH KOREA

INTERIM GOVERNMENT

ACTIVITIES

File 22
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PART V

SOCIAL

	Page
Section 1. Health and Welfare.	201
Section 2. Education	205
Section 3. Culture and Religion.	209
Section 4. Media of Information.	211

REPORT

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ACTIVITIES

OF THE

REPORT

OF THE

REPORT

- Section 1. Survey and Collection
- Section 2. Distribution
- Section 3. Culture and Propagation
- Section 4. Value of Information

SECTION 1

HEALTH AND WELFARE

C O N T E N T S

	Paragraph
Preventive Medicine	1
Veterinary Affairs.	6
Medical and Hospital Affairs.	7
Supply.	12
Public Assistance	13
Vital Statistics.	16

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Quarantine Measures

1. The Department of Public Health and Welfare issued strengthened regulations on 4 September to prevent or control possible entry of communicable diseases via air or water transportation.

Designating Inchon, Mokpo, Pusan and Kunsan as the only allowable ports of entry for vessels and Kimpo for aircraft, the following measures will be enforced there upon arrival:

- (1) All persons must prove recent vaccination for cholera, typhus, typhoid, paratyphoid and smallpox. Failing this they will be vaccinated and kept under surveillance till freedom from disease is insured. In addition, the vessel may not embark anyone believed to be suffering from a communicable disease or known to have been in contact with an infected person.
- (2) Persons becoming ill in transit must be isolated and quarantine officials apprised by radio. In such case the vessel will fly the yellow quarantine flag, and proceed to quarantine anchorage to await inspection and official action.
- (3) Bodies may be transported only if properly embalmed and hermetically sealed in metal containers.
- (4) Other provisions concern insect and rodent control measures while on the high seas and in port; inspection of cargoes of meat and other animal products; provisions for sanitation of food and water and animal quarantines.

Communicable Diseases

2. Triple typhoid vaccine dosage will be increased from 1.5 to 2.5 cubic centimeters to insure immunity to the disease. This new amount will be administered from 15 September when an immunization program goes into effect in South Korea.

3. Results of mass immunizations have become evident during the first six months of 1947:

Typhoid incidence rates fell 18 percent.

Cholera cases which last year attacked 15,748 persons were nonexistent.

There were 143 cases of smallpox as compared to 20,574 cases in 1946.

4. A diphtheria immunization program for primary school children was begun in August. Most attention was given to areas having the highest incidence of the disease.

Sanitation

5. One hundred seventeen restaurants, bakeries, barber shops and theaters were inspected by the Bureau of Sanitation during August.

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

6. National Veterinary Service Bulletin No. 3, "DDT Insecticide," was distributed to all licensed veterinarians. It contained a resume of literature on the use of DDT in veterinary science.

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL AFFAIRS

7. Korea sent two doctors to the International Cancer Congress held in St. Louis during 2-7 September.

8. The Industrial Health Association, composed of doctors from industrial hospitals and dispensaries, held its first meeting on 18 August. Tasks set were: improvement of industrial sanitation standards; study of occupational diseases and other medical problems germane to industry and the transfer of the present periodic immunization program to a permanent basis. In addition, classes in medical English are planned so that members may use materials in the field published in the United States and Great Britain.

Nursing Affairs

9. Twenty-one nurses from the provinces are attending the second course for teacher and chief-nurse training at Seoul.

Dental Affairs

10. Of 130 applicants who took the examination for local dentists on 1 August, seven passed.

11. Although there are 613 licensed dental practitioners in South Korea, only 389 dentists and 73 local dentists were in practice on 30 August.

SUPPLY

12. Typhoid and typhus vaccines produced in August showed gains of 2,751,000 and 18,500 cubic centimeters respectively over July production.

STATUS OF BIOLOGICALS
(cubic centimeters)

Institute for Prevention of Infectious Disease
26 July - 29 August

	<u>New</u>	<u>Dispensed</u>	<u>On Hand</u>
Typhoid	4,921,000	24,850	6,606,650
Typhus	24,900	700	89,220
Typhus <u>a/</u>	0	0	913,040
Cholera	0	1,054,200	4,321,100

Anyang Institute for Veterinary Research
26 July - 29 August

Rinderpest (serum)	0	200,000	1,092,829
Blackleg	10,000	34,000	3,500
Anthrax	0	1,200	65,040
Septicemia	13,500	34,900	29,100
Fowlpest	30,000	70,000	113,300

Pusan Institute for Veterinary Research
26 July - 16 August

Rinderpest	0	0	217,900
Rinderpest (serum)	300,000	1,474,500	1,195,500
Fowlpest	0	0	53,700
Infectious pneumonia	17,600	0	43,600

a/ American

SOURCE: Department of Public Health and Welfare.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

13. An UNRRA shipment of 60,000 vials of penicillin was received in August. Distribution to the provinces for free treatment was made on the basis of population percentages.

14. LARA (Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia) shipments in July consisted of clothing, bedding and medical and nursery supplies valued at \$202,000.

15. The Korean Red Cross now has ten major offices in population centers throughout the country. It shares with governmental agencies responsibilities for disaster relief, refugee care, development of mobile clinics and public information on first aid, home nursing and simple health and sanitation measures.

VITAL STATISTICS

16. Births in March numbered 47,341 and deaths 22,744, of which 11 percent were infants under one year of age.

17. Since reports from the provinces are incomplete the Seoul infant mortality rate of 29.1, while higher than elsewhere because of congestion, is probably closer to a true national average.

DEATHS IN MARCH

<u>Province</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>	<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Percent Infant to Total Deaths</u>
Seoul	1,591	463	29.1
Kyonggi-do	4,357	730	16.7
Kangwon-do	1,476	187	12.7
Chungchong-pukto	1,301	157	12.1
Chungchong-namdo	2,470	212	8.6
Kyongsang-pukto	4,195	223	5.3
Kyongsang-namdo	4,405	426	9.7
Cholla-pukto	1,242	66	5.3
Cholla-namdo	1,534	63	4.1
Cheju-do	<u>173</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2.3</u>
Total	22,744	2,531	11.1